

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 210

By Fraley

A RESOLUTION to recognize the 100th anniversary of Rotary International.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those exemplary institutions that, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as estimable organizations that are dedicated to improving the quality of life of all people; and

WHEREAS, founded in Chicago on February 23, 1905, by an association of professionals who “rotated” meeting places, Rotary International has proven itself to be one such laudable organization, worthy of recognition for its efforts to improve communities around the world; and

WHEREAS, as the Rotary Club grew, its mission expanded beyond serving the professional and social interests of its members; and

WHEREAS, in 1917, Rotarians created an endowment fund, The Rotary Foundation, for “doing good in the world”; today, contributions to The Rotary Foundation total more than 80 million dollars annually; and

WHEREAS, by 1921, Rotary Clubs had been formed on six continents and the name Rotary International was adopted a year later; there are currently more than 1.2 million Rotary Club members in more than 165 countries; and

WHEREAS, Rotary International has adopted the motto, “Service, Above Self” to represent its members’ valiant commitment to helping those less fortunate than themselves; and

WHEREAS, Rotary Club has a distinguished history of providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards, and promoting good will and peace in the world; and

WHEREAS, the 1985 decision by Rotary International to commit to immunizing all the children of the world against polio was an ambitious and impressive resolution; since then,

Rotary International has combined its efforts with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and UNICEF to immunize more than one billion children worldwide; and

WHEREAS, today, the world has witnessed a ninety-nine percent decrease in polio cases since 1988, and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; the dedication and labors of these Rotarians serve as a testament to the virtues of benevolence and honor; and

WHEREAS, Rotary International continues to serve communities through programs that sponsor volunteers with community expertise to provide medical supplies, health care, clean water, food production, job training, and education to millions in need, particularly in developing countries; and

WHEREAS, as the world's largest source of privately-funded international scholarships, Rotary promotes international understanding through its scholarships, grants, and exchange programs with more than 35,000 students from 110 countries who have studied abroad since 1947 as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars; and

WHEREAS, Rotary has also provided for more than 46,000 young professionals to explore their career fields in other countries through Rotary's Group Study Exchange Program, in addition to providing for 8,000 secondary students to experience life in another country through Rotary's Youth Exchange Program; and

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2005 the members of all Rotary Clubs celebrated the Rotary International's 100th anniversary of service and philanthropy toward those less fortunate than themselves; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of this great State should honor and recognize all those members of Rotary International who have improved the quality of life for Americans and all people around the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we celebrate and recognize the 100th anniversary of Rotary International

and its members' service to improving the human condition in Tennessee, the United States, and throughout the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.